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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. US710215875US, on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to: MS PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: January 31, 2006

Signature:


(Ben W. Hartwell)

Docket No.: 15115/182001
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hirokazu Tanaka et al.

Application No.: National Phase of
PCT/JP2004/010111

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: VARIABLE LIGHT ATTENUATOR

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

22511
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

MS PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references, or is otherwise referred to in the specification.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

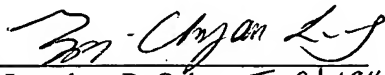
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0591, under Order No. 15115/182001.

Application No.: National Phase of PCT/JP2004/010111

Docket No.: 15115/182001

Dated: January 31, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Hirokazu Tanaka
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	15115/182001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	JP-60-64307	04-12-1985	Fujitsu Ltd.		
	BB	JP-58-173702	10-12-1983	Plessey Overseas Ltd.		
	BC	JP-2003-195191-A	07-09-2003	Delta Electronics Inc.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	esp@cenet Patent Abstract for JP60064307 dated 04/12/1985 (1 page)	
	CB	esp@cenet Patent Abstract for JP58173702 dated 10/12/1983 (1 page)	
	CC	esp@cenet Patent Abstract for JP2003195191 dated 07/09/2003 (1 page)	
	CD	Patent Abstracts of Japan (full English language Abstract) for JP2000-131626 dated 05/12/2000 (8 pages)	
	CE	Patent Abstracts of Japan (full English language Abstract) for JP2002-221676 dated 08/09/2002 (17 pages)	
	CF	International Search Report for PCT/JP2004/010111 dated 11/02/2004 (3 pages)	

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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